

Attorney's Docket No. 6636-CON

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent application

In re application of: Michael T. Larsen

Group Art Unit: 1724

Serial No.: 10/678,364

Filed: 10/03/2003

For: GAS/LIQUID SEPARATOR INCLUDING A LIQUID TRAP FILTER

**Commissioner for Patents**

**P.O. Box 1450**

**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR BEFORE MAILING OF  
FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 CFR 1.97(b))**

*NOTE: "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed: (1) within three months of the filing date of a national application; (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; or (3) before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last." 37 CFR 1.97(b).*

*NOTE: The "filing date of a national application" under 37 CFR 1.97(b) has two possible meanings. Where the filing is a direct one to the United States Patent & Trademark Office, the filing is defined in 37 CFR 1.53(b) as "the date on which: (1) A specification containing a description pursuant to § 1.71 and at least one claim pursuant to § 1.75; and (2) any drawing required by § 1.81(a), are filed in the Patent and Trademark Office in the name of the actual inventor or inventors as required by § 1.41." 37 CFR 1.97(b)(1). On the other hand, an international application that enters the national stage occurs when the applicant has filed the documents and fees required by 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) within the periods set forth in § 1.494 or § 1.495. 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) requires the filing of the following: (1) the national fee; (2) a copy of the international application, unless already sent by the International Bureau, and an English translation if filed in another language; (3) amendments under PCT Article 19, with a translation into English if made in another language; (4) an oath or declaration; and (5) a translation into English of any annexes to the International preliminary examination report, if such annexes were made in another language. 37 CFR 1.97(b)(2).*

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Date: February 26, 2004

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*Leonard J. Kalinowski*

Signature

Leonard J. Kalinowski

(type or print name of person certifying)

## IDENTIFICATION OF TIME OF FILING THE ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 CFR 1.97(b).

**NOTE:** *"No certification or fee is due when the filing is made within the above time period. It is advisable to ensure that no Office action has been mailed if the disclosure statement is delayed until after three months from filing."*

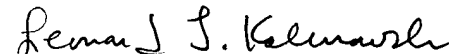
**NOTE:** *"An information disclosure statement will be considered to have been filed on the day it was received in the Office, or on an earlier date of a mailing if accompanied by a properly executed certificate of mailing under 37 CFR 1.8, or Express Mail certificate under 37 CFR 1.10. An Office action is mailed on the date indicated in the Office action." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).*

**NOTE:** *"The term 'national application' includes continuing applications (continuations, divisions, continuations-in-part) so three months will be measured from the actual filing date of an application as opposed [sic] to the effective date of a continuing application." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).*

**NOTE:** *"An action on the merits means an action which treats the patentability of the claims in an application, as opposed to only formal or procedural requirements. An action on the merits would, for example, contain a rejection or indication of allowability of a claim or claims rather than just a restriction requirement (37 CFR 1.142) or just a requirement for additional fees to have a claim considered (37 CFR 1.16(d)). Thus, if an application was filed on Jan. 1 and the first Office action on the merits was not mailed until six months later on July 1, the examiner would be required to consider any proper information disclosure statement filed prior to July 1." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).*

**WARNING:** *"A petition for suspension of action to allow applicant time to submit an information disclosure statement will be denied as failing to present good and sufficient reasons, since 37 CFR 1.97 provides adequate recourse for the timely submission of prior art for consideration by the examiner." Notice of July 6, 1992 (1141 O.G. 63).*

Dated: February 26, 2004  
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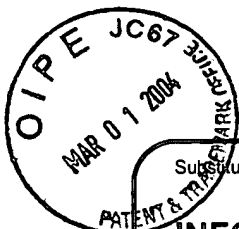
SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY

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Attn: Linda Gabriel, Docket Clerk  
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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

### Complete if Known

Application Number	10/678,364
Filing Date	10/03/2003
First Named Inventor	Michael T. Larsen
Group Art Unit	1724
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	6636-CON

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	AA	US 4,465,485	08-1984	Kashmer et al.	
	AB	US 4,546,778	10-1985	Sullivan, Richard E.	
	AC	US 4,579,568	04-1986	Ricciardelli et al.	
	AD	US 4,713,095	12-1987	Ricciardelli	
	AE	US- 4,886,528	12-1989	Aaltonen et al.	
	AF	US- 4,924,860	05-1990	Larsen et al.	
	AG	US- 4,985,055	01-1991	Thorne et al.	
	AH	US- 5,365,938	11-1994	Eskela, Esa	
	AI	US- 5,368,021	11-1994	Beard et al.	
	AM	US- 5,826,575	10-1998	Lall, Suresh	
	AN	US- 6,397,846	06-2002	Skog et al.	
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### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	AO	9-72830 A	03-1997			
	AP	DE 10014829 A1	10-2001			

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

<sup>1</sup> EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>2</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>3</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.

<sup>4</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>5</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>6</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>7</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet 2 of 2

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First Named Inventor	Michael T. Larsen
Group Art Unit	1724
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	6636-CON

**OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	BA	Internet document "GORE-TEX® and WINDSTOPPER® Fabrics: Outerwear Index"; Website @www.gore.com/corp/fabrics/index.html (prior to October 18, 2001).	
	BB	Internet document "GORE-TEX® and WINDSTOPPER® Fabrics: Outerwear Index"; Website @www.goretex.com/products/outwear.html (prior to October 18, 2001)	

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<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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